

3-7th FA Raiders take fire missions to Barking Sands

Story and photos by
SGT. BRIAN ERICKSON
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs
25th Infantry Division

PACIFIC MISSILE RANGE FACILITY BARKING SANDS, Kauai — Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, “Never Broken,” 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, conducted an exercise, here, Nov. 18-21.

“The objective of this exercise was to load a firing platoon and actually fly away to a remote location with coastal environment to conduct beach placement of our artillery platoon,” said Lt. Col. George Hammar, commander, 3-7th FA Regt.

In order to get the 3-7th to Kauai, the unit had to call upon Coast Guard, Air Force and Army pilots to transport vehicles and Soldiers across the

ocean using helicopters and a C-17 Globemaster III cargo plane.

“It was good training for these guys to load up on to the birds, since they have never done it before,” said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Grigsby, 2nd platoon sergeant, Battery A, 3-7th FA Regt.

When the plane landed at Barking Sands, the Soldiers wasted no time getting the vehicles ready

to unload and move toward their objective. The challenge began once they arrived — the Soldiers had 18 minutes to occupy the area with their M119A2 105mm-towed howitzers.

“The goal is to be the fastest section on the

See FA, A-4



Soldiers from 3-7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, remove a M119A2 105mm-towed howitzer from a vehicle as they begin to occupy a Kauai beach point, Nov. 18, for a realistic beach deployment exercise. (Photo has been altered from its original form; background elements have been adjusted.)



More than a dozen Soldiers from the 7th EDD, 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, and construction contacters conduct underwater repairs to the tsunami damage at Keauhou Small Boat Harbor, Nov. 4-22. (Courtesy photo)

Army divers repair tsunami damage

Real-world mission aids community harbor

STAFF SGT. GAELN LOWERS
8th Theater Sustainment Command
Public Affairs

KEAUHOU, Hawaii — More than a dozen Soldiers from the 7th Engineer Dive Detachment, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, and construction contacters from Sea Engineering Inc., conducted underwater repairs on tsunami damage at Keauhou Small Boat Harbor, here, Nov. 4-22.

For the 7th EDD, exercise “Shallow Brown” was an opportunity for the divers to train and remain proficient on one of their wartime missions: performing port construction and the rehabilitation of waterfront facilities. For those who use the harbor, it provides added safety after the March 11, 2011, tsunami.

The 2011 tsunami was caused by a 9.0-magnitude earthquake that struck Japan and other islands throughout the Pacific, causing tens of billions of dollars in damage and an estimated 13,000 casualties.



A contractor works on the Keauhou Harbor rehabilitation above the surface, while diver/Soldiers from the 7th EDD, 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, tend to damage underwater. (Courtesy photo)

“This is a real-world mission, not just a created training scenario, so we actually have priorities and objectives that must be

“With this exercise, we are really able to save valuable time and resources.”

— **1st Sgt. David Chebahtah**
Master diver
7th EDD, 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC

completed,” said Spc. Caleb Whisman, 2nd class diver, 7th EDD. “We can’t just call it a day, because it’s time or it’s getting late. We have tasks that must be accomplished by the end of each day. We rebuilt their quay wall and pier that was seriously damaged by a tsunami a few years ago. Because it’s real-world, this really shows us what to expect and prepares us well for unfamiliar environments.”

The Soldiers and contractors poured a concrete jacket around exposed steel pilings and repaired the harbor’s bulkhead.

See EDD, A-4

599th keeps faith with TAMC veterans

Story and photos by
DONNA KLAPAKIS
599th Transportation Brigade Public Affairs

HONOLULU — Members of the 599th Transportation Brigade visited veterans at the Veterans Affairs Center for the Aging at Tripler Army Medical Center, here, Monday.

The five Soldiers feel that they are keeping faith with their military forebears when they are able to take the time to see veterans at the facility.

“It is important to take care of our battle buddies, not just those currently serving, but those who served before us,” said Capt. Paul Conrad, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 599th Trans. Bde. “I am truly thankful for the opportunity to share stories among so many Army generations.”



Neff Maiaeva (seated), Marine Corps veteran of Guadalcanal, gives some advice to Staff Sgt. Tiffany Dixon, as Staff Sgt. Raymond “Lee” Patterson and Sgt. 1st Class Paula Henderson listen. The three Soldiers are all with the 599th Trans. Bde.

While Soldiers from the 599th were the only visitors at the center during their visit, the center has a lot of company during the holiday season.

“You have come at the beginning of the busy time of year for the center,” said Chuck Ibara, rehabilitation supervisor for the center.

“From now until New Year’s, we’ll have a group of visitors almost every day,” Ibara reported.

The center has 60 beds for patients who are recuperating from illness or rehabilitating from an accident or surgery. The center also provides hospice for end-of-life care.

“We also offer respite care to people who are providing their

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DOD transitions to next phase in Philippines

SGT. 1ST CLASS TYRONE MARSHALL JR.
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Department of Defense has transitioned to the next phase of recovery efforts in the Philippines in the wake of Super Typhoon Haiyan, DOD spokesman Army Col. Steven Warren said, Monday.

Warren provided Pentagon reporters an update on U.S. military-assisted humanitarian aid and disaster relief in the Philippines, known as Operation Damayan, based on the recommendations of Marine Corps Lt. Gen. John Wissler, commander, 3rd Marine Expeditionary Force and Joint Task Force 505.

“(Sunday), Lt. Gen. Whistler declared Operation Damayan as officially moved to Phase 4, which is transition,” Warren said.

Initially, Warren said, the general recommended that JTF 505, which was stood up to provide command and control over relief efforts, stand down on or around Dec. 1.

Warren also described the extent of relief support provided by the U.S. military to the government of the Philippines.

“We’ve delivered more than 4 million pounds of relief supplies and equip-



TACLOBAN, Republic of the Philippines — Tacloban residents displaced by Super Typhoon Haiyan fill the cargo hold of a C-17 Globemaster assigned to the 517th Airlift Squadron. Approximately 400 personnel were loaded onto the aircraft. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Peter Blair)

ment, which was provided by (the U.S. Agency for International Development), primarily,” he said.

Additionally, Warren said, the U.S. military logged nearly 2,000 flight hours, conducted 1,000 flights and moved 2,000

relief workers into Tacloban City.

“The Department of Defense, (through the military), has airlifted nearly 20,000 survivors from the affected areas, to date,” he said.

Despite the transition, Warren noted

the department continues to provide assistance to the typhoon-stricken Philippines.

“The USS Freedom delivered 11 pallets of supplies to Tacloban yesterday,” he said.

BRIDGING THE BASICS

Junior NCOs must be enabled as primary trainers

COMMAND SGT. MAJ. DONALD WILSON
307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion
516th Sig. Brigade
311th Sig. Command (Theater)

Being at war for more than a decade has deteriorated our junior noncommissioned officers ability to train and our leaders ability to properly plan training.

To meet our training needs during the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) cycle, the Army increased its use of the Internet as a means to train, disseminate and collect information.

Leaders have largely failed to account for this additional training when publishing training schedules. This use of the Internet, combined with traditional training requirements, has overwhelmed junior NCOs, the primary trainers of Soldiers. We must afford our junior NCOs time and predictability to improve their Soldiers technical and tactical competencies.

Before the attacks of 9/11, junior NCOs were good instructors who knew

and followed the eight-step training model or other training models, like the military decision making process and troop leading procedures. They were proficient mainly because of leader involvement in every step of the model. Over the past 12 years, most of these Soldiers who remained in the Army became our platoon and first sergeants. During this era of mobilizations and the ARFORGEN cycle, the number of training skills passed to new NCOs diminished. As the operational tempo grew, less time was available to conduct productive training meetings and develop qualified trainers. Instead, training schedules were focused on the reset, train/ready and available cycles as units prepared for their next deployment. “Training to standard not to time” was replaced with “just get



Wilson

the prescribed ARFORGEN training done.”

In addition to the mandatory Army training requirements, our primary trainers must also meet the increasing demands of the Internet. Soldiers must multiple online classes. The added demand of Internet use, without allocating time on unit training plans, causes junior NCOs to carry a greater workload. It is not allowing them to give sufficient time and attention to individual or collective tasks.

Our primary trainers are modifying the eight-step training model. They are only identifying the task to be trained in Step 1 (plan the training) and then skipping to Step 6 (execute). Before 9/11, NCOs didn’t work on computer-based training after duty hours. They prepared for the training they were tasked to give, well in advance and in accordance with the unit’s training plan.

I’m holding our company command teams of the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion responsible for providing their primary trainers with protected and pre-

dictable training schedules that also incorporate online training. The first step in developing our trainers is to give them predictability. Brigades and battalions must provide annual training guidance in a timely manner allowing companies to develop their unit training plan. Platoon and company training meetings are vital to the success of our team chiefs, squad leaders, and section sergeants. Computer-based training is training, and should be scheduled like any other training event.

Junior NCOs, you are our primary trainers. Show Soldiers what right looks like instead of giving them more unscheduled classes, which doesn’t fix the problem — it only adds to the myriad of tasks they must accomplish. Give them detailed and protected training schedules that include Internet-based training, which will allow for the proper use of training models.

Once the training environment has been created, you will enable primary trainers to become more proficient.

FOOTSTEPS in FAITH

Thanksgiving is a time to remember family, comrades

CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) FOLAUGA TUPUOLA
Headquarters and Headquarters Company
2nd Battalion, 25th Combat Aviation Regiment
25th Combat Avn. Brigade
25th Infantry Division

Many Soldiers, along with their families and loved ones, are unable to gather together for Thanksgiving this month.



Tupuola

Soldiers and civilians deployed thousands of miles away from home, once again, are unable to enjoy the fellowship and Thanksgiving meal with those dearest to their hearts.

Thanksgiving is a time when families

unite and enjoy each other’s companionship while reflecting on their life’s journey and good deeds during the past year. It’s also a time to thank military families by acknowledging the hard work and sacrifice that their loved ones in the armed forces provide for the sake of freedom, our citizens and our nation.

As you enjoy this Thanksgiving holiday, let it not only be a time for thankfulness, but also a time for rest and replenishment.

I believe that God is with everyone and has his hand in every situation, whether good or bad. He is present in all circumstances. One should consider this a blessing, for where God is present, we have the opportunity to embrace him and for him to comfort us.

When most people think of Thanksgiving, the first thing that comes to mind is turkey, stuffing, gravy, mashed potatoes, etc. Second, many think of those who sacrifice their lives for our freedom. However, I think of Thanksgiving as an act of giving thanks, which reminds of me of the 110th Psalm:

“Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before Him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, the sheep of His pasture.”

Notice the words “shout,” “serve,” “come” and “know.” These are all action verbs used in this context to express thanksgiving to the one that sustains life and all of creation.

I remember an article about a schoolteacher who asked her first-grade students to draw a picture of something they were thankful for on Thanksgiving. She thought of how little many of these children from poor neighborhoods actually had to be thankful for in their lives. That being said, she knew that most of them would draw pictures of turkeys on tables with food. However, the teacher was taken aback with the picture drawn by a student named Douglas — a simple hand.

The class was captivated by the abstract image. “I think it must be the hand

of God that brings us food,” said one child. “A farmer’s hand,” said another, “because he grows the turkeys.” Finally, when the other students were back at work, the teacher bent over Douglas’ desk and asked him whose hand it was. He mumbled, “It’s your hand, teacher.”

She recalled that during recess she had frequently taken Douglas, a scrubby, forlorn child, by the hand. She often did that with many of the children, but it meant so much more to Douglas. “Perhaps this is everyone’s Thanksgiving, not for the material things given to us, but for the chance, in whatever small way, to give to others,” she thought.

During this season, please remember your family members, extended Army family members (leaders, battle buddies, Army civilians, co-workers) and your next-door neighbors in your prayers. Prayer is an action verb that not only asks for God’s blessings for others, but also gives God praise and thanksgiving.

Have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Voices of Ohana

With the holidays officially here, we want to know:

“Do you indulge in holiday treats or try to be good and watch what you eat?”

Photos by 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs.



“I do indulge in holiday treats. During the holidays, it is part of enjoying your family and celebrating time together. Eat and be merry!”

Bridget Carter
Spouse,
94th AAMDC



“I always try to be good and watch what I eat, but sometimes I have to eat the holiday treats, because they are so good, I can’t resist.”

Staff Sgt. Rafael Collazo
HR NCOIC, HHBN,
94th AAMDC



“Typically, I splurge during the holidays, since my family and I eat healthy the rest of the year.”

Maj. Susan Recella
Operations planner,
94th AAMDC



“I like to enjoy cooked meats. They are not always good for you, but it is the holidays.”

Spc. Anthony Rudd
Commander’s driver,
94th AAMDC



“While tempting as it may be to eat sweets, I’m training for the Honolulu Marathon and need to keep focused.”

Master Sgt. Jacob Walls
Inspector general
NCOIC,
94th AAMDC

Public is invited to 72nd Pearl Harbor commemorations

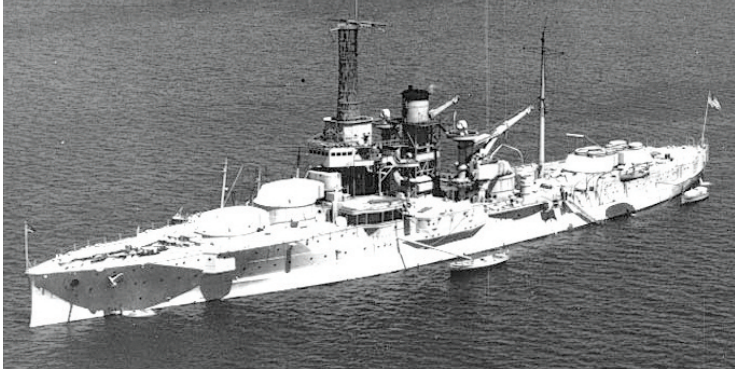
“Sound The Alarm” theme showcases communications

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
News Release

PEARL HARBOR — The National Park Service and the U.S. Navy will host a joint memorial ceremony commemorating the 72nd anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, 7:45 – 9:30 a.m., Dec. 7, at the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument (formerly known as the USS Arizona Memorial Visitor Center), here.

The ceremony will take place on the back lawn of the Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, looking directly out to the USS Arizona Memorial.

More than 2,500 distinguished guests and the general public are expected to join current and former military personnel, including Pearl Harbor survivors and other World War II veterans, for the annual observance of the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor.



The USS Utah, AKA target ship AG-16, shown off the coast of Long Beach, Ca., seven years before the Dec. 7, 1941, surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. Built in 1911, the ship was converted to a radio-controlled target ship in 1931. The Utah remains partially submerged next to Ford Island. A sunset ceremony will take place Dec. 6. (Photo courtesy U.S. Navy archives)

The theme of this year’s historic commemoration, “Sound The Alarm,” examines how thousands of Americans answered a call to duty in the wake of the attack. It also explores how the nation was unified through communication in 1941 and throughout the war.

Dec. 7, 1941, remains one of the most pivotal moments in America’s

history, but many Americans had little information or access to what was taking place on that fateful day.

The commemoration is free of charge, and the public is invited to attend. Seats for the general public are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

In addition, a series of special events recognizing the 72nd anniversary of

Pearl Harbor 72nd anniversary events

•*Nov. 29-30*, Honolulu Theatre for Youth Play “Nothing Is The Same,” a children’s play recommended for kids ages 8 and up. Tenney Theatre, 7:30 pm; Dec. 7, 4:30 and 7:30 p.m.; Dec. 14, 4:30 pm. Call 839-9885

•*Nov. 30*, “Remembering Pearl Harbor: The Media’s Coverage of The Attack.” Program will focus on the media coverage of December 7th and how the country first heard about the attack. Event will also include a three-panel discussion, with media representatives and historians focusing on the local and national coverage and the eventual public relations cam-

paign, “Remember Pearl Harbor.” Pearl Harbor Visitor Center Movie Theaters, 6 p.m. Free admission, limited seating; reservations suggested. Call 422-3316.

•*Dec. 5, 6 and 8*, historic Pearl Harbor boat tours around Ford Island, narrated by National Park Service rangers. Includes stop at the USS Arizona Memorial. Pearl Harbor Visitor Center, Dec. 5, 2:45 p.m.; Dec. 6, 2:15 p.m.; and Dec. 8, 2:45 p.m. Limited seating; reservations required by booking online at www.recreation.gov or by calling 954-8721.

•*Dec. 6*, USS Utah Sunset Ceremony, 5-6 p.m., USS Utah Memorial, Ford Island. Free admission; base access is required.

the Pearl Harbor attack will be open to the public, Nov. 29-Dec. 7.

(Editor’s note: Additional events

taking place Dec. 7 will be in the Dec. 6 issue of the “Hawaii Army Weekly.”)

Commemoration attendance

For additional information about attending the Pearl Harbor 72nd Anniversary Commemoration, visit www.pacifichistoricparks.org.



Tax season approaches

DEFENSE FINANCE AND
ACCOUNTING SERVICE
PUBLIC AFFAIRS
News Release

Do you know that myPay is the quickest way to get your 2013 W-2s?

In fact, once it becomes available in myPay, you have the option to view, print or save your W-2s in PDF format.

Prior-year tax statements are available, as well. This will save you time in comparison to the U.S. Postal Service, which will take approximately 7-10 business days for delivery.

myPay protects against identity theft and is more secure than regular mail by allowing you to access your tax statements securely online. Also, myPay matches the industry standards for the highest level of encryption and security to protect all myPay users.

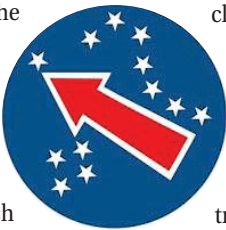
myPay also makes it convenient for you to switch from mail delivery to electronic. You simply log in to myPay and, from the main menu, select “Turn on/off Hard Copy of W-2 and 1099-INT” for military or “Turn on/off Hard Copy of W-2” for civilians and answer “Yes” to switch from “Electronic and Hard Copy” to “Electronic Only” for faster and safer electronic delivery.

In the 2012 tax return season, the Hawaii Army Tax

Centers (HATC) at Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter served 3,287 service members, Department of Defense civilians, retirees and family members at no cost to them. HATC generated more than \$9 million in tax refunds and saved customers close to \$1 million in preparation fees.

Soldiers preparing individual income tax returns for the 2013 return season have already initiated preparations and training. All Soldiers must complete extensive training to earn the required Internal Revenue Service certifications.

The centers are expected to reopen in early 2014; read the “Hawaii Army Weekly” for updates.



DISASTER MANAGEMENT EXCHANGE



MARINE CORPS TRAINING AREA BELLOWS — Senior officers observe the first-ever practical field exchange during the ninth annual Disaster Management Exchange (DME) between the United States and China, here, Nov 14. The DME provided an opportunity for both Armies to demonstrate and discuss their different approaches to a humanitarian-assistance and disaster-relief scenario. This year’s event consisted of an expert academic discussion and the practical field exchange. (Photo by Angela Kershner, U.S. Army-Pacific Public Affairs)

FA: 3-7th takes beach

CONTINUED FROM A-1

gun line,” said Sgt. Tarweh Witherspoon, Btry. A, 3-7th FA Regt.

As soon as the Soldiers finished occupying the beach, the missions started coming across the radio from the operations center.

According to Grigsby, the sections completed routine crew drills and placement as if the regiment would be firing live rounds off the beach during each firing mission that came across the radio.

Between the firing missions the sections took the opportunity to train Soldiers by working with maps and radios, common skill tasks and cross-training on the weapons system, said Grigsby.

“This exercise has given me the opportunity to learn how to operate all the different positions on the weapon system,” said Pfc. Justin Cook, Btry. A, 3-7th FA Regt.

At the end of the exercise, Hammar had nothing but good things to say about what his Soldiers had accomplished.

“We were able to land in an austere environment, roll out the back of the C-17, occupy and be ready to go in the time standard,” said Hammar. “The exercise went very well. The Soldiers did a phenomenal job.”



Soldiers from 3-4th Cavalry Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, watch over friendly forces from an observation point during a training exercise at Barking Sands with 3-7th FA Regt., 3rd BCT, 25th ID, Nov. 20.

599th: Volunteers build tradition of visiting TAMC veterans

CONTINUED FROM A-1

own long-term care for family members who are veterans,” said Ibara. “They can bring in their family members for up to 30 days a year. That way, they get a vacation and come back to their loved ones refreshed.”

Soldiers from the 599th began their tradition of visiting veterans at the facility during the week following Veterans Day 2012. Three of the Soldiers who visited the center had also visited last year, while two were making their first visit to the facility.

Veterans said they were happy with their care at the facility.

Alexander Lenchanko Jr. was with the 65th Combat Engineers during the Korean War. He has been in the center for nine years with multiple sclerosis.

“They give us the best treatment here. You couldn’t get this type of care anywhere on the outside,” he said.

Lenchanko’s roommate at the cen-



Staff Sgt. Tiffany Dixon (left) and Capt. Paul Conrad, both with the 599th Trans. Bde., pose for a photo with Korean War veteran Alexander Lenchanko Jr. at TAMC’s Veterans Affairs Center for the Aging.

ter, Jesse Solerto, agreed.

“They treat us really good in here,” said Solerto, a 4th Battalion, 23rd

Infantry Regiment veteran who became paralyzed two years ago because of shrapnel he received during the

Vietnam War.

Staff Sgt. Raymond “Lee” Patterson, movement supervisor for the 599th Command Operations Center, began visiting the veterans in the facility on his own after the unit’s first visit a year ago.

He said he averages about one visit every two months. He stops by to see any veteran there who is willing and able to visit, after first clearing it with the facility’s front desk.

“They sacrificed for us, especially the World War II and Vietnam vets,” Patterson said. “They paved the way for me, so, I like to go back and visit with them. My family and I love to give back to other people. Sometimes just stopping to say hello to someone makes a difference in a person’s day.”

As he left one room, Patterson promised he’d return soon.

“I’ll be back on Thanksgiving Day to see you again,” he assured the veteran.

EDD: Tsunami damage fixed

CONTINUED FROM A-1

“We are actually able to do real demolition and reconstruction on a facility that needs to be rehabbed, whereas we usually construct a facility, then tear it back it down,” said 1st Sgt. David Chebahtah, a master diver with the 7th EDD. “With this exercise, we are really able to save valuable time and resources. Any time we can get out and do real work, it’s a great opportunity for younger Soldiers to learn.”

Shallow Brown is just one of the many training exercises, both real-world and created-scenario, in which 7th EDD participates throughout the year. These activities keep experienced divers’ knowledge fresh and less experienced divers trained-up for whatever mission comes their way.

311th Sig. supports joint service disaster exercise

Story and photo by
MAJ. AVON CORNELIUS
311th Signal Command (Theater) Public Affairs

BELLOWS AIR FORCE STATION — Six Soldiers from the 307th Expeditionary Signal Battalion, 516th Sig. Brigade, 311th Sig. Command (Theater), provided top-notch communications support for the fourth iteration of Operation Pacific Response, here, Nov. 16-22.

Operation Pacific Response, hosted by the 413th Contracting Support Bde., is an annual joint collaboration of more than 200 military and civilian personnel from all branches of the service, both active and reserve components.

“This exercise is an opportunity to pass on knowledge and prepare the service members to respond to natural disasters in the Pacific area of responsibility,” said Maj. Kyle Noda, contracting management officer, 413th CSB.

Personnel from Company B, 307th ESB, spent a week establishing communications capacity and providing critical communications support.

The team was responsible for the installation, operation and maintenance of a command post exercise network, supporting more than 200 subscribers with central processing units, field phones and voice-over-Internet-protocol phones. They were also responsible for laying more than 2,000 feet of category 5 cable.

“Our communications support has been excellent,” said Lt. Col. Cevonia Joshua, military deputy, regional contracting office, 413th CSB. “We have been up and running from day one with uninterrupted service.”

The exercise provided opportunities to build capacity between the fiscal triad of contracting, resource management and legal personnel through training, team-building and collaborative problem solving.

This year, the scenario involved members of the fiscal triad providing assistance to troops conducting humanitarian assistance operations after an earthquake in a fictional country. Members of the triad had to work with local vendors to procure supplies and services, and tackled scenarios dealing with corruption, bribery and fraud. Along the way, they had senior mentors to guide them and facilitate training.

The 307th ESB worked directly with military and civilian personnel from Alaska, Hawaii, Japan, Washington and Virginia to provide communications support.

“Personnel from 307th stepped right in and reacted quickly to ensure we had all the support we needed,” said Noda. “Every year, our communications support improves, and we look forward to building communication capacity for future exercises.”



(From left) A Marine, an Airman, a Soldier and a Sailor collaborate during Operation Pacific Response, a joint service exercise of more than 200 military and civilian personnel from across the globe, Nov. 16-22.



Staff Sgt. Jaquetta Goodson (left), public affairs noncommissioned officer and newcomer to the 94th AAMDC, staples a paper branch onto the unit’s SHARP tree as Gen. Vincent Brooks (center), commander, USARPAC, and Brig. Gen. Daniel Karbler, commander, 94th AAMDC, look on. (Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Karry James, 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command Public Affairs)

94th AAMDC symbolically adds branches to SHARP tree

SGT. LOUIS LAMAR
94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command
Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The Army wants its leaders at all levels to be committed to creating a work environment conducive to maximizing productivity and respect for human dignity, and the Army has established several programs to ensure that every Soldier is trained. One of those is the Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention Program (SHARP).

The 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command symbolically attached paper branches to a SHARP tree in a ceremony in the unit’s courtyard, here, Monday.

“SHARP is important for the Army to promote, mainly because there are some misconceptions on what SHARP is and what is considered harassment or assault in the Army,” said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Doretha Magee, property book officer and assistant Sexual Assault Response coordinator, 94th AAMDC.

SHARP reinforces the Army’s commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive policy centering on awareness, prevention, training, education, victim advocacy, response, reporting and accountability. Army policy promotes sensitive care and confidential reporting for victims of sexual assault and accountability for those who commit these crimes.

Gen. Vincent Brooks, commander, U.S.

Army-Pacific, participated in the ceremony by pledging to help combat sexual assault and harassment in every manner, and added a paper branch on SHARP tree as a reminder that there is zero tolerance for SHARP violations.

The Army requires Soldiers to do semi-annual SHARP training. The goal of the program is to create a climate that minimizes sexual assault incidents through education, continued awareness and focus on the offenders. If an incident should occur, SHARP ensures that victims and subjects are treated according to Army policy.

The program also creates a climate that encourages victims to report incidents of sexual assault without fear, ensures sensitive and comprehensive treatment to restore victims’ health and well-being, and helps leaders understand their roles and responsibilities regarding response to sexual assault victims so they can thoroughly investigate allegations and take appropriate administrative and disciplinary action.

“The number one priority in the Army for Soldiers and civilians is the prevention of sexual assault and harassment,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Finis Dodson, senior enlisted leader, 94th AAMDC. “We thank Gen. Brooks for supporting our unit’s SHARP program and taking part in our SHARP ceremony. This shows that leaders are engaged and helps to ensure that Soldiers trust leadership enough to approach them when an incident actually occurs.”

Longer name limits set for HI license, ID

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
News Release

HONOLULU — The state Department of Transportation, working in cooperation with the county Departments of Motor Vehicles, announces expanded character limits for Hawaii driver’s licenses and state identification cards.

The change went into effect earlier this month to conform to new national standards.

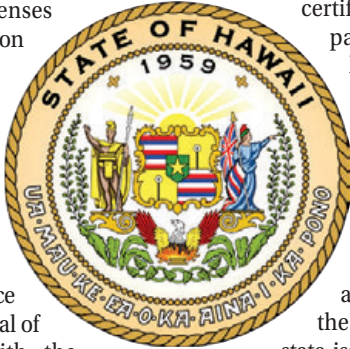
Driver’s licenses and state ID cards will now provide space for names up to a total of 120 characters, with the breakdown as follows:

•35 characters for middle name, and

•5 characters for suffixes (ex., Jr. or Sr.).

The State of Hawaii’s enhanced requirements for driver’s licenses and state ID cards have been deemed as fully compliant with the Real ID Act of 2005, following a review and certification by the Department of Homeland Security.

New identification requirements to prove “legal presence,” confirming that a person is either a U.S. citizen or legally authorized to be in the United States, for state-issued driver’s licenses took effect in Hawaii March 5, 2012, and for state ID cards Jan. 2, 2013, to conform with the Real ID Act.



Online resources

For more information on requirements for Hawaii driver’s licenses, visit <http://hidot.hawaii.gov/hawaiis-legal-presence-law/>.

For more information on requirements for state identification cards, visit <http://hidot.hawaii.gov/hawaiistateid/>.



Traffic Alerts report closed roads, limited routes and construction detours from Army and state advisories received by press time.

For the complete list of traffic advisories, visit www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil/info/trafficcalendar.htm.

Unless otherwise noted, all phone numbers are 808 area code.

Today
Restriped Road — The state De-

partment of Transportation’s (DOT) southbound Fort Weaver Road restriping project increases traffic capacity and allows for better traffic flow. The half-mile restriping project, from the H-1 Freeway to Laulaunui Street, was finished early last week. The lanes were reconfigured to add a third lane through the half-mile area, along with adding new destination and traffic signs.

This project is part the DOT’s commitment to address traffic congestion with cost-effective solutions. Motorists are advised to use caution while adjusting to new traffic patterns.

30 / Saturday
D Quad Area — A portion of Schofield’s Foote Avenue will be in-

termittently closed for 15 minutes at a time, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., for construction work on Building 450. The road will reopen until the next load of materials is moved. During closure, traffic will be re-routed through Heard Avenue, right on Waianae Avenue, and right on Flagler and back onto Foote.

Avenue. Project schedule is subject to change, pending weather delays. Appropriate safety signs and barriers will be in place.

December
1 / Sunday
TAMC Closure — Construction work will take place on Tripler Army Medical Center’s Krukowski Road, today, Dec. 31. There may be a partial

erinary Clinic will close for renovations, re-opening September 2014. Clients may schedule appointments for their pets at the JBPHH Veterinary clinic, Building 1864, Kuntz Avenue, Hickam AFB (449-6481); or the MCBH Veterinary Clinic, 455 Pancoast Place, Kaneohe Marine Corps Base (257-3643).

Ongoing

Green to Gold — Officer-potential Soldiers who are interested in earning a degree are encouraged to apply. Check the Green to Gold website for complete benefits, eligibility requirements and the appropriate applications at www.goarmy.com/rotc/enlisted_soldiers.jsp.

CID — Are you interested in a career as a special agent with the Army Criminal Investigation Command? If so, call 655-1989/0541. For more information and prerequisites, visit www.CID.army.mil.

CA/MISO Recruiting — Interested in Special Forces (SF), Civil Affairs (CA) or Military Information Support Operations (MISO)? Attend unclassified briefings on the mission, make-up and requirements of the Army Special Operations Force (ARSOF) assessment and selection and qualification

courses.

Information pertaining to stationing and areas of operations for each ARSOF entity will be provided. The primary focus of the brief is to identify qualified candidates to attend the assessment and selection course, enabling them to be successful during the qualification course.

All candidates currently processing for any future ARSOF course are also provided a Future Special Operations Soldier Training Program (FSSTP) with its physical training program.

CA/MISO briefs are 12 p.m., Tuesdays; SF briefs are noon and 3:30 p.m., Wednesdays. Call Special Operations Recruiting at 655-4397 or visit Building 690, Room 3G, Schofield Barracks.

Computer Literacy — Operation Life Transformed, a public charity, is offering free scholarships for computer literacy courses to all active duty military, military spouses, war-wounded caregivers and transitioning veterans, included National Guard and Reserves.

For more details or to apply for a scholarship, visit <http://lifetransformed.org>. Fill out the applications forms and all other paperwork and forward to students@lifetransformed.org.

For more information, visit www.MilitaryOneSource.com or call 800-342-9647.

road closure near Buildings 102 and 104, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., daily. One lane will be open for two-way traffic.

2 / Monday
AMR Closure — Lane closures take place on Aliamanu Drive near Hibiscus Street, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., until Dec. 6., to allot for the design/build contractor on the Hibiscus Neighborhood Housing Project to perform required sidewalk, roadway and utility work. Flaggers will help control thru traffic for alternating flow.

Ongoing
Freeway Service Patrol — This service is operating on Hawaii’s freeways and is sponsored by the State De-

partment of Transportation, the Honolulu Police and Fire departments, and Emergency Medical Services.

The free service provides assistance to stranded motorists by changing flat tires, jump-starting vehicles, refilling radiators, making certain temporary repairs and providing an emergency gallon of gasoline.

The service is available, 5 a.m.-7 p.m., Monday-Friday, except federal holidays. Call 841-4357.

Go Akamai — Make one website stop to check real-time traffic data at GoAkamai.org, courtesy of the Hawaii State Department of Transportation and the City and County of Honolulu, Department of Transportation Services.



Maj. Michael Post, Support Operations, 8th TSC (left), and wife Kari stand on the porch of their new home in the new Hibiscus Neighborhood on AMR.

USAG-HI, IPC continue building 'Best Places' to live

Nearly 250 new homes in both North and South regions to be available soon

Story and photos by
ISLAND PALM COMMUNITIES LLC
News Release

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Four thousand ninety-seven, and counting.

This is the number of military families now living in a newly constructed Island Palm Communities (IPC) home at U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, with an additional 2,200 families living in a renovated home.

The development is part of the Army's 15-year initial plan to build 5,241 new homes, community centers and amenities and renovate 2,515 existing homes.

"It's great to see that the vision of our IPC partnership to 'Create the Best Places' is being realized and families are benefiting from it," said Col. Daniel Whitney, commander, USAG-HI.

"Seeing thousands of families enjoying their homes and communities demonstrates we have our priorities in place

and are truly taking care of our service members," Whitney stated.

IPC's initial development is more than halfway complete, and families continue to move into new and renovated homes each month. Many homes are highly desirable four- and five-bedroom units and available both here and at Aliamanu Military Reservation.

The Hibiscus Neighborhood, located in the Aliamanu community, recently welcomed families into the first group of 137 new homes, which were to be completed last month.

"Our experience with the staff was absolutely wonderful," said new resident Maj. Michael Post, distribution and integration branch chief, Support Operations, 8th Theater Sustainment Command.

"They kept us informed about our new home, and it's beautiful, well worth the wait," Post said.

Air Force Maj. Shannon Moore and his family were very happy with their home and move-in experience as well. Moore has been in the military for 13 years, and his father-in-law retired from the Air Force, so his wife has been part of military housing her whole life.

"The AMR housing complex is by far the most beautiful, well-constructed neighborhood both of us have ever seen," said Moore. "Our kids from day one have been playing safely in the neighborhood, with great neighbors

"It's beautiful, well worth the wait."

— Maj. Michael Post

Distribution and integration branch chief
Support Operations, 8th Theater Sustainment Command

and a safe environment. We feel very blessed to be in this home."

Nearly 250 new homes in both North and South regions will become available through January 2014, and two to three dozen homes will be completed every month in the North at Schofield Barracks between February and June 2014.

More green initiatives on the horizon

When IPC's initial development is complete in 2020, it will be one of the largest solar-powered communities in the world, with nearly 30 percent of its energy needs supported through renewable energy.

"We're fortunate to have a talented development team and strong Army leadership in Hawaii that can provide the experience and support needed to help meet important Department of Defense energy goals," said Pete



USAG-HI housing communities, through builder IPC LLC, continue to expand its renewable energy program with the installation of PV systems atop existing homes.

Sims, IPC project director.

"When our initial development is complete, more than 7,800 families will make IPC their home," Sims said, "so our families have a tremendous opportunity to make a positive impact on the local environment."

Rooftop photovoltaic (PV) systems play a big role in IPC's energy-efficiency plans, and they have been installed on new homes since construction started in 2005.

Over the past year, IPC has worked with solar provider SolarCity to install PV systems on existing homes. The first phase of PV installations in the Helemano Military Reservation community was recently completed, and SolarCity started installations this month on homes at Fort Shafter Flats.

In 2014, IPC plans to add more than 2.5 megawatts of PV systems on existing homes, bringing it closer to its goal of generating up to 18 megawatts of power.

With a certified LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) for neighborhood developments achieved at Simpson Wisser on Fort Shafter, IPC continues to pursue new technologies to gain maximum energy efficiency.

A 30-home pilot project to explore Building Energy Management Systems (BEMS) will get underway in 2014. Initial plans include testing smart thermostats that can detect movement and a human being's heat signature. The system also can monitor performance of air-conditioning and solar hot-water systems by communicating temperature differentials and mechanical operation reliability.

Energy savings are estimated between 10-20 percent; the pilot will help quantify potential savings.

Online Resources

For more information about Island Palm Communities' initial development, log on to islandpalmcommunities.com/aboutus.



More than 4,000 new homes have been built by USAG-HI and IPC as part of the Army's 15-year initial plan to build 5,241 new homes, community centers and amenities. Nearly 250 new homes are expected to be opened for residency in the coming weeks, including here at Schofield Barracks.



Briefs

Today

Aloha Friday Barbeque — Leilehua Grill offers a Friday barbeque lunch special, beginning at 11 a.m., until sold out.
Menu items include smoked brisket ribs, pulled pork, barbeque chicken, pork chops, baked beans, cole slaw, potato salad and corn bread; items cost \$8-\$10. Call 655-7131.

30 / Saturday

2014 Pro Bowl Tickets — SB and FS Leisure Travel Services are selling tickets for the Jan. 26, 2014, game at Aloha Stadium.
Tickets cost \$50-\$135; ticket purchaser must have a military ID and be at least 18 years old. Call 655-9971.

SKIES Hula Classes — Hula classes are offered as follows:
• AMR, 8:30 a.m., Saturdays;
• Schofield Hula 101, 9:15 a.m., 4 p.m. and 4:45 p.m.; and Intermediate, 5:30 p.m., Wednesdays.
Call 655-9818 for class availability or visit www.himwr.com.

December

1 / Sunday

NFL Sundays — SB Tropics Warrior Zone offers all the NFL games. Facility opens half-hour before the first game starts.
Tropics also will feature Monday night and Thursday night NFL games. Patrons 18 and older are welcome; call 655-5698.

Kolekole Sunday Football — Doors open 30 minutes before kick-off of first game. Breakfast tailgate buffet costs \$5 until noon; pupu and crowd-pleasers start at 11 a.m. Games and prizes are offered throughout the morning.
Are you SB Kolekole’s hardest working fan? Punch in every time you watch football at Kolekole, and get a chance to win a 32-inch TV at the Super Bowl party. The fan with the most clocked hours by Jan. 30, 2014, wins. Call 655-4466.

SKIES Winter Recital — The SKIES Dance Program, Hula and Theatre will perform Disney’s “101 Dal-

matians,” 6 p.m., KROC Center of Hawaii, Ewa Beach.

2 / Monday

Schofield Bowl Special — Schofield Bowl offers “Monday Dollar Days,” with a \$1 game of bowling, shoes, nachos and hot dogs, 9 a.m.-10 p.m., Mondays, except holidays, through Dec. 30. Call 655-0573.

Workweek Lunch — SB Kolekole Bar & Grill (655-4466) and FS Mulligan’s Bar & Grill (438-1974) offer daily lunch, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Enjoy buffet-style or menu items.

Mongolian Barbecue — Select your favorites from a large variety of meats and vegetables, 5 p.m., every Monday, at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill, and grilling will be to your liking. Cost is 65 cents for each ounce. Call 655-4466.

3 / Tuesday

Taco Tuesday Night — SB Kolekole Bar & Grill offers three tacos, rice and beans specials for \$4.99. Call 655-4466.

4 / Wednesday

Clay Hand Building Workshop — Learn to work with clay from the experts at the SB Arts & Crafts Center, 1-3 p.m., Wednesdays. Initial session is \$25; additional sessions are \$5. Call 655-4202 for registration.

BOSS Meetings — Single Soldiers and geographic bachelors are invited to Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers meetings every Wednesday to discuss community service projects and fun upcoming programs. Call Spc. Jennifer Coggins, BOSS president, 655-1130.
Attend these meetings:
• North meetings, 2 p.m., 1st and 3rd Wednesday, SB Tropics Warrior Zone.
• South meetings, 11 a.m., 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, FS Bowling Center.

Keiki Night — Every Wednesday night is Keiki Night, 5-8 p.m., at SB Kolekole Bar & Grill (655-4466) and FS Mulligan’s Bar & Grill (438-1974). Kids younger than 10 years eat for a special price from the keiki menu.

5 / Thursday

Leilehua Thursdays — Join Chef Devin Lee, 4:30-7:30 p.m., every Thursday, at Leilehua’s driving range for hot dogs and burgers. Menu items cost \$3-\$4. Call 655-7131.

7 / Saturday

AMR Winter Wonderland — Start your day having breakfast with Santa, 8 a.m., at the AMR Gym and Community Center. A free Winter Wonderland event follows at 9 a.m.-2 p.m., with free play in snow (courtesy of Hui ‘O Wahine), kids activities,

TREE LIGHTING TIME



SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — The Murray ohana (left) pushes the button to light up the holiday tree during the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation’s annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, here, last December. This year’s ceremonies are scheduled Dec. 3 at Schofield Barracks and Dec. 5 at Fort Shafter. Both events begin at 5 p.m. and will feature a concert by the 25th ID Band, light refreshments and photo opportunities with Santa Claus. (File photo)

bouncers and pictures with Santa. Fee charged for food items and paint-and-take ceramic ornaments.
Visit Santa, Mrs. Claus and their friendly elves, Frosty the Snowman, Penguin and more. Write a letter to Santa and you will receive an answer from the North Pole. Call 655-0002.

Ladies Golf Clinic — Ladies can experience a free 30-minute golf lesson at Leilehua Golf Course from PGA professionals. By appointment only, call 655-4653.

9 / Monday

Christmas Lights Trolley Tour — Leisure Travel Services is selling tickets for Honolulu City Christmas

Light Trolley Tours, 6 p.m., Dec. 9 and 17. The 90-minute tour departs from FS; cost is \$13, with limited seating available.

Ongoing

Winter Golf Sale — Leilehua Golf Course Pro Shop’s annual winter sale will last until Dec. 31. All items 10-50 percent off. Sale does not apply to special orders. Call 655-4653.

Storage Shed Rental — Rent a storage shed from either the FS (438-9402) or SB (655-9368) Auto Skills centers. Fee is \$40 (8x6x5, metal) or \$60 (8x6x6, plastic) per month.

community Calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

30 / Saturday

Hawaii vs. Army Football — College football kick-off is at 6 p.m., Nov. 30, at Aloha Stadium, featuring the University of Hawaii Rainbow Warriors and the Army Black Knights from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. Active duty military, DOD civilians and retired military eligible for 50 percent discount on select adult tickets (eight maximum) to all UH home events.
Valid ID required when purchasing tickets at event. Visit www.hawaiiathletics.com.



TAG Tryouts — The Actors Group is holding tryouts for the acclaimed August Wilson play “Radio Golf,” 3-6 p.m., Nov. 30 and Dec. 1, at the TAG theatre, Dole Cannery Square, 650 Iwilei Rd. Suite 101; runs Jan. 31- Feb. 23, 2014.

December

2 / Monday

Chanukah Menorah Lighting

— This second annual celebration and observance of Chanukah for the Jewish members of the garrison is open to all community members, 6-8 p.m., Dec. 2, SB Main Post Chapel.

Military Mondays — Military members and their families receive 15 percent off qualified purchases at more than 50 participating merchants at Windward Mall. The program is open to all active duty, retired military and military family members with a valid ID.

3 / Tuesday

DeCA Scholarships — Applications for the 2014 Scholarships for Military Children Program are available at commissaries worldwide, beginning Dec. 3, or online at <http://www.militaryscholar.org>. Applications must be turned in to a commissary by close of business Feb. 28, 2014. Packages must be hand-delivered or shipped via U.S. Postal Service or other delivery methods, not emailed or faxed.

SB Tree Lighting and Holiday Concert — Activities begin at 5 p.m., General’s Loop, with tree lighting ceremony beginning at 6 p.m. The 25th ID Band will entertain, and appearances by Santa and light refreshments are included. Call 655-0113.

Family Night Programs — AMR and SB chapels invite the public to family night programs. The weekly

event features dinner, classes and activities for children ages 4 through high school and adults.

A nursery service, staffed by CYSS, is provided for children ages 6 months-4 years who are registered with CYSS or CDC.

Weekly schedule follows:
• AMR Chapel Family Spiritual Resiliency Night, Tuesdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
• SB Chapel Family Spiritual Resiliency Night, Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30 p.m.
Call 833-8175 (SB) or 839-4319 (AMR).

5 / Thursday

Hawaiian Culture — IPC offers Hawaiian culture classes and activities, 4 p.m., every first Thursday of the month, at SB Kaena Community Center, 5485 Gallup St. Free to IPC residents. Call 275-3159 or email events@ipchawaii.com.

FS Tree Lighting — Holiday concert, featuring the 25th ID Band, begins at 5 p.m., with tree lighting ceremony scheduled at 6 p.m. Refreshments, pictures with Santa and more will be included. Call 655-0113.

6 / Friday

“Elf” — Diamond Head Theatre presents the tale of Buddy, who mistakenly believes he’s an elf, beginning 8 p.m., Dec. 6.
Weekly performances are Thursday-Sunday, through Dec. 28. Purchase tickets by phone, 733-0274, or

online at www.diamondheadtheatre.com.

7 / Saturday

December 7th — The Pacific National Monument USS Arizona ceremony is at 7:45 a.m., Pearl Harbor Visitor Center. Free admission.
Attendees should arrive at World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument by 6:30 a.m., at the latest. This year’s keynote is Secretary Max Cleland of the American Battle Monuments Commission.
Parking is available at World War II National Monument/Arizona Memorial or at Richardson Field, near Aloha Stadium, with free shuttles to Pearl Harbor. Visit www.PacificHistoricParks.org for more information.

Hawaii Symphony — Active duty military personnel are able to purchase \$20 tickets for 2013 Hawaii Symphony Orchestra fall concerts, including “Bella Flack” performances, 8 p.m., Dec. 7, and 4 p.m. Dec. 8, at the Blaisdell Concert Hall. Tickets must be purchased at the Blaisdell box office. Two discount tickets may be purchased the week of the performance per military ID.

Ongoing

Jewish Services — Weekly worship services are now held at 7:30 p.m., Fridays, at Aloha Jewish Chapel, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam.
Call 348-4560 or visit www.chabadofhawaii.com.

worship Services

Additional religious services, children’s programs, educational services and contact information can be found at www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil. (Click on “Religious Support Office” under the “Directorates and Support Staff” menu.)

AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
HMR: Helemano Chapel
MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
SC: Soldiers’ Chapel, Schofield Barracks
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

• First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
• Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

• Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
• Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
• Sunday services:
- 8:30 a.m. at AMR
- 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
- 11 a.m. at TAMC
• Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m. TAMC

Gospel Worship

• Sunday, noon. at MPC
• Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

• Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
• Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
• Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

• Friday, 7:30 p.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

• Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex Room 232

Protestant Worship

• Sunday Services
- 8:45 a.m. at MPC
- 9 a.m., at FD, TAMC chapel
- 10 a.m. at HMR
- 10:30 a.m. at AMR
- 10:45 a.m. at WAAF (Spanish language)
- 11 a.m. at SC (Contemporary)
• Liturgical (Lutheran/Anglican)
• Sunday, 9 a.m. at WAAF

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to aafes.com under realtime movie listing.



Runner Runner

(R)
Fri., Nov. 29, 7 p.m.
Thurs., Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

About Me

(R)
Sat., Nov. 30, 2 p.m.

The Counselor

(R)
Sat., Nov. 30, 6 p.m.

Planes 3D

(PG)
Sun., Dec. 1, 2 p.m.



Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs 2 3D

(PG)
Sun., Dec. 1, 6 p.m.

No shows on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
ACS: Army Community Service
AFAP: Army Family Action Plan
AFTB: Army Family Team Building
AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation

ASYMCA: Armed Services YMCA
BCT: Brigade Combat Team
BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
Co.: Company
CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services
EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program
FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and

Recreation
FRG: Family Readiness Group
FS: Fort Shafter
HMR: Helemano Military Reservation
IPC: Island Palm Communities
PFC: Physical Fitness Center
SB: Schofield Barracks

SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific
WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield



USARPAC staff tours the construction site of the new MCF, recently. Once the facility is complete, USARPAC Headquarters will be consolidated into one facility that will have up-to-date security and computer technology.

USARPAC offers new HQ site tours

Story and photo by
SGT. CHARLENE MOLER
U.S. Pacific Command Public Affairs

FORT SHAFTER — The new U.S. Army-Pacific Mission Command Facility (MCF), here, opened for scheduled tours, recently.

The MCF is still under construction but, when complete, will consolidate the USARPAC Headquarters into one facility that will support Army Mission Command or joint forces requirements across the Asia-Pacific area of responsibility with up-to-date security and computer technology.

This new building will provide an environment conducive for USARPAC, a 4-star headquarters, to host flag-level and diplomatic visits from 36 partner nations in the Asia-Pacific.

“This is an innovative project in a num-

ber of ways,” said Col. John McClellan, deputy chief of staff for engineering, USARPAC.

“We’re looking at phase one of the construction,” McClellan said. “It’s a six-phase project that’s going to be going on for the next several years. This phase started in the spring of 2012.”

He said phase one is about 40 percent complete.

“They’re doing a lot of things on this site to minimize impact,” McClellan said, noting that the environmental impact has been kept to a minimum. For example, stone that came from the excavation was crushed on site and used during construction.

“This contractor has gone out of its way to minimize disruption and to promote good environmental stewardship,” McClellan said. “They’ve really been sensitive

to the needs of the families and residents of Fort Shafter, and also to the broader community here in Honolulu.”

The headquarters for USARPAC is currently operating in buildings built in 1944 that were constructed to be temporary. While they have withstood the test of time, the 69-year-old buildings are failing structurally and require additional resources to maintain, according to Lise Ditzel-Ma, the MCF project manager.

Schedule a Visit

The next tour of the Mission Command Facility site is scheduled at 10 a.m. Dec. 19.

Those interested in attending the tour to see the facility’s progress can call Bill Erwin at 438-6353.

National Guard Soldiers teach leadership

Exercise emphasizes teamwork

Story and photos by
MICHAEL ZALOPANY
Kawanakoa Middle School

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — More than 200 students from Kawanakoa Middle School learned about leadership, teamwork and trust the same way Soldiers do during a recent trip, here, when two separate groups of eighth-grade students participated in the Leadership Reaction Course (LRC), Nov. 14-15.

Kawanakoa students have participated in the LRC course for the past five years.

Science teacher Sam Hankins and social studies teacher Gary Tani came up with the idea for the annual excursion, and Brig. Gen. Bruce Oliveira, commander, Hawaii Army National Guard (HIARNG), helped the

See LRC, B-4



Kawanakoa Middle School students employ teamwork to lift a barrel over a steep incline as part of training in the LRC at Schofield Barracks, recently.

A misfit shopper pledges to curb ‘spending blizzard’

Like most military families struggling to climb the never-ending series of financial peaks along life’s path, mine is in a constant state of semi-panic. Mortgages, car loans, school tuition, music lessons, credit card payments, repair bills, sports fees, application fees, grocery bills, insurance bills and all the other costs that encumber the typical military family can pile up into a seemingly overwhelming mountain of expenses.

We trudge up that treacherous peak, wondering if we’ll ever get out of debt, save enough for college and make it to retirement. We keep at it, hoping that one day, we’ll reach the summit and plant a flag signaling that our personal financial goals have been achieved. And it’ll be all downhill from there.

In the meantime, we keep climbing from one tiny, crumbling, precarious ledge to the next in a continuing struggle to balance our income and expenses. And just when we think we’ve found a foothold, something comes along and knocks us into another crevasse of debt.



THE MEAT & POTATOES OF LIFE

LISA SMITH MOLINARI
Contributing Writer

No, it’s not a polar bear, a mountain goat or the Abominable Snowman — it’s the holiday shopping season, and there’s nothing more dangerous to our financial security this time of year.

“Now, kids, your father and I are not going to buy a lot of Christmas presents this year,” I’ve told our children on numerous occasions, and despite their “we’ve heard this before” eye-rolling, I’ve sincerely meant it every time.

The problem is, once I get out there in that frenzy of holiday shoppers, I lose my way. Despite careful budgeting and planning, I am bombarded by a blizzard of twinkle lights, eye-catching displays, irresistible special pricing, fuzzy slippers, cheese log samples, ingenious gadgets, two-for-one deals and unsolicited perfume spritzes.

I’m not an experienced shopper, so like the

preacher’s daughter at the frat party, I sometimes don’t know when to stop.

One minute, I show up at the mall armed with a budgeted list of specific items and a plan to be home before dinner. The next thing I know, I’ve overdosed on department store fragrances and Harry & David samples. My husband and kids have called numerous times, wondering why I haven’t come home yet. My minivan is stuffed with shopping bags full of items, half of which I bought for myself.

Woozy and confused, I chew the remnants of peppermint bark I vaguely recall buying from a female elf at Macy’s, make the humiliating “drive of shame” back home and wonder when the avalanche of credit card bills will start rolling in.

What happened? Will I ever learn financial self-control and stay on course? Or will I always be blinded by the blizzard of holiday shopping temptations and go adrift?

With three teenagers in the house and college tuition bills looming in our future, I’m making a pledge to stay on course this year:

I WILL NOT try on boots, agree to a free exfoliating hand massage, sample gourmet mustards or inhale even the tiniest whiff in the perfume department.

I WILL stick to my list, pay in cash, avoid

anyone dressed up like an elf and save a few dollars left for the Salvation Army bucket.

I may not have Rudolph to guide me, but there’s no need to cancel Christmas. This misfit shopper will make it through the holiday spending blizzard of 2013, and live to tell the story.



Curbing holiday shopping impulse-buying is a challenge for many this time of year. (File photo)

(A 20-year military spouse and mother of three, Lisa has plenty of humor to share in her column, “The Meat and Potatoes of Life,” which appears in military and civilian newspapers and on “Stripes Military Moms” website, at www.themeatandpotatoesoflife.com and follow @MolinariWrites.)

LRC: HIARNG training provides middle-schoolers a sample of military life

CONTINUED FROM B-3

two teachers implement the LRC course program.

“We both agreed that the skills and teamwork that are built by Soldiers attempting to complete the various tasks at the LRC are exactly what the students need,” said Tani, who also is a captain in HIARNG.

“This could be accomplished in a way that the students would also have fun,” Tani added.

During the course, teams of students worked their way through 12 obstacles, each with a different challenge that included passing a barrel over a wall using ropes and pipes.

The competing teams were scored on leadership and teamwork, and high scores were factored into their school grades.

“If my team did not exchange ideas and help each other out, we would never have completed any courses,” said student participant Katie Chu. “The course helped us build trust in ourselves and others. I know that I definitely improved on becoming a leader and trusting others.”

Volunteers from Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps at McKinley High School and Roosevelt High School, as well as the University of Hawaii ROTC, the U.S. Army and HIARNG, helped teach the students leadership skills, including how to react under

stress.

Members of the HIARNG also donated MREs for the students to get a real taste of military life while training.



Sgt. 1st Class Alfred Domingo, 2-14th, 2nd SBCT, 25th ID, provides Stryker operation insights to Kawananakoa Middle School students.

Following the LRC, Sgt. 1st Class Alfred Domingo, 2nd Battalion, 14th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, escorted students and offered briefings on Stryker operations.

(Editor’s note: Zalopany is an eighth-grade teacher at Kawananakoa Middle School.)

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IMCOM joins ‘Great American Smokeout’ effort

COL. DANA RENTA

U.S. Army Installation Management Command

SAN ANTONIO — Come join us in celebrating the American Cancer Society’s 37th observance of the Great American Smokeout.

Over the years, this event has dramatically changed Americans’ attitudes about smoking and has sparked community programs and smoke-free laws that are saving lives.

Believe it or not, quitting for even one day is an important step toward a healthier life.

Since the mid-60s, cigarette use has declined from 42 percent to around 20 percent. That number reflects one in five U.S. adults (which accounts for more than 43 million people) who still smoke cigarettes and about 15 million people who smoke cigars or pipes.

Smoking still occurs, despite widespread knowledge that tobacco is the No. 1 cause of preventable deaths in America. If that fact isn’t disturbing enough, tobacco use is growing in the

25- to 44-year-old population (22.1 percent) compared to those 65 and older (7.9 percent).

In 2011, 18 percent of all high school students smoked cigarettes.

Smoking accounts for approximately 33 percent of all cancer deaths and has increased links to many cancers, like that of the lung (87 percent), the voice box, the mouth, tongue, lips, nose, sinuses, throat, esophagus, stomach, pancreas, cervix, kidney, bladder, ovary, colon and leukemia.

Smoking causes other health problems like heart disease, aortic aneurysms or vessel disease, erectile dysfunction, blood clots, bronchitis, emphysema, dental disease and strokes. It also is linked to fertility problems, osteoporosis, ulcers and vision and hearing problems.

Secondhand smoke can be harmful as well.

Installation Management commanders encourage members of the Army community to also stop using smokeless tobacco

products for all the same reasons, as they too are linked to many cancers and diseases.

Also, friends or loved ones who use tobacco products are urged to make a deliberate decision to stop using ALL tobacco products as part of the Great American Smokeout, which began Nov. 21.

There is agreement that this is a difficult task. For some, it takes many tries to completely stop. That is OK.

Say no to tobacco and choose a lifetime of healthy habits, starting today. As the American Cancer Society says, “Everyone loves quitters!”

Let’s stay healthy together.

(Editor’s Note: Paul Smith, wellness program coordinator, IMCOM, also assisted in the writing of this article.)

Available help

For more information on ways to quick smoking, contact your command surgeon or wellness coordinator.

There also are help lines available you can call, including 1-800-227-2345, or visit www.ucanquit2.org.

VA offers dental insurance program

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

News Article

WASHINGTON — Veterans Affairs (VA) is partnering with Delta Dental and MetLife to allow eligible veterans, and family members receiving care under the Civilian Health and Medical Program (CHAMPVA), to purchase affordable dental insurance, beginning Nov. 15.

More than 8 million veterans who are enrolled in VA health care can choose to purchase one of the offered dental plans.

“VA continues to explore innovative ways to help veterans get access to the care and services they have earned and deserve,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki. “This new dental program is another example of VA creating partnerships with the private sector to deliver a range of high-quality care at an affordable cost, for our nation’s veterans.”

This three-year pilot has been designed for veterans with no dental coverage, or those eligible for VA dental care who would like to purchase additional coverage. Participation will not affect entitlement to VA dental services and treatment.

There are no eligibility limitations based on service-connected disability rating or enrollment priority assignment. Coverage for this new dental insurance will begin Jan. 1, 2014,

and will be available in the United States and its territories.

Also eligible for the new benefits are nearly 400,000 spouses and dependent children who are reimbursed for most medical expenses under VA’s CHAMPVA program. Generally, CHAMPVA participants are spouses, survivors or dependent children of veterans officially rated as “permanently and totally” disabled by a service-connected condition.

Dental services under the new program vary by plan and include diagnostic, preventive, surgical, emergency and endodontic/restorative treatment.

Enrollment in the VA Dental Insurance Plan is voluntary. Participants are responsible for all premiums, which range from \$8.65 to \$52.90 per month for individual plans.

Officially certified “service connected” free dental services will continue for those designated veterans.

Online Resources

People interested in VA dental insurance participation may complete an application online through either Delta Dental, www.delta.dentalvadip.org, or MetLife, www.metlife.com/vadip.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY